

### **In the Claims**

1. (Previously presented) A transgenic cotton plant comprising fiber cells stably transformed with an expression cassette comprising a gene which comprises a synthetic coding sequence encoding at least one pentapeptide which is repeated at least once.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously presented) An expression cassette comprising one or more regulatory elements, a fiber specific promoter, one or more selectable marker genes and a terminator, wherein the promoter promotes the expression of a synthetic gene comprising a coding sequence encoding a pentapeptide which is repeated at least once.
4. (Previously presented) The expression cassette of claim 3, wherein said pentapeptide is Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro (SEQ ID NO:2).
5. (Previously presented) The expression cassette of claim 3, wherein said fiber specific promoter is an E-6 promoter.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) The transgenic cotton plant of Claim 1, wherein said gene encodes between 20 and 251 repeats of the amino acid sequence Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro (SEQ ID NO:2).
9. (Previously Presented) The transgenic cotton plant of Claim 1, wherein said pentapeptide is Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro (SEQ ID NO:2).
10. (Previously presented) The transgenic cotton plant of Claim 1, wherein said pentapeptide is Val-Pro-Gly-Val-Gly (SEQ ID NO: 1).

11. (Previously presented) A transgenic cotton plant comprising fiber cells stably transformed with an expression cassette comprising a synthetic gene which comprises a coding sequence encoding either a Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro (SEQ ID NO. 2) or a Val-Pro-Gly-Val-Gly (SEQ ID NO. 1) pentapeptide that is repeated at least once.

12. (Currently amended) A The transgenic cotton plant of claim 11, where the pentapeptide is repeated in multiples of ten.